

## ARTICLE 24: Construction of DPW Salt Shed



Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty nine thousand dollars (\$89,000) for the purpose of site preparation and erection of the 72' X 100' salt / sand mix shed, the purchase of which and appropriation relating to such purchase were authorized by the passage of Article 10 of the March 2006 annual town meeting and authorize the withdrawal of five thousand three hundred dollars (\$5,300) from the Salt Shed Capital Reserve fund. The balance of eighty three thousand and seven hundred

dollars (\$83,700) to come from general taxation.

***(The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends a yes vote. The Ways and Means Committee supports this Article by a vote of 5-2.)***

***In order to reduce the amount of salt used on our roadways, 114 of Amherst's 122 miles of paved roads are treated with a salt/sand mixture which the DPW mixes at the garage. The previously accepted practice until 2001, was to mix salt outside in the sand pile as needed and load it on trucks. Seven years ago we divided the existing 60 x 65 wooden salt storage building in half in order to mix under cover, mitigating the environmental damage created by runoff. This however, severely restricts our ability to store product and requires deliveries throughout the winter season. For this reason we have experienced great difficulty arranging deliveries for mixing which has a direct bearing on the quality of winter road maintenance. Two years ago, the voters approved an article to purchase a salt/sand storage building. The plan at that time was to reduce the cost of construction by having town employees construct the building. It is now clear that we were mistaken in the assumption that we could use town labor to reduce the cost of the project. Given the size of the project, this was neither a realistic nor cost effective approach.***

***Support of this article allows the town to add these construction funds to the previously appropriated purchase funds, thereby building a salt and sand storage shed large enough to take delivery, mix and store a season's worth of dry sand and salt instead of piecemeal throughout the winter season.***

**Estimated Tax Impact: \$0.04 Per Thousand**

## ARTICLE 25: Impact Fee Implementation



Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one dollar (\$1) for the purpose of retaining professional services to determine and set impact fee standards and set rates relative to the Capital Improvements Program. *This is a special article in accordance with RSA 32.*

***(The Board of Selectmen unanimously recommends a yes vote. The Ways and Means Committee unanimously supports this Article.)***

***This Article was proposed to allow the Board of Selectmen to engage a professional with experience in determining the “fair share” of Impact Fee assessments. This is very important because all the assessments for the fees must clearly reflect the impact of the proposed development on the existing facilities of the Town. This covers all Town facilities and services, from roadway infrastructure to public facilities. Items such as municipal, school, and recreational buildings and properties would all be included. In other words, everything for which the Town raises money as a result of development could be subject to these assessments. Once this process is completed, all new construction will be assessed as to its fair share of the costs of any required Town expenses necessitated by the development. At the Deliberative Session the voters chose to include the \$25,000 originally proposed in this article in the operating budget. The article remains on the ballot with the \$1 appropriation for legal reasons on the advice of town counsel.***

**Estimated Tax Impact: None**